

Appl. No. 09/559,704
Amendment dated December 16, 2003
Reply to Office Action of September 17, 2003

Claim Listing:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of making paperboard cartons with selectively reinforced panels, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) advancing a web of paperboard along a path, the web of paperboard having a width and longitudinally extending panel portions that will become panels separated by fold lines in completed paperboard cartons;

(b) progressively applying and adhering at least one ribbon of reinforcing material to the advancing web of paperboard, the ribbon having a width less than the width of the web of paperboard and being positioned to overlie and adhere to substantially all of a selected panel portion of the web;

(c) cutting the web of paperboard to form carton blanks having panels; and

(d) forming the carton blanks into cartons for receiving articles, the ribbon of reinforcing material reinforcing at least one panel of the cartons.

2. (Original) A method of making reinforced paperboard cartons as claimed in claim 1 and where in step (b) the at least one ribbon of reinforcing material is a ribbon of paperboard.

3. (Original) A method of making reinforced paperboard cartons as claimed in claim 1 and wherein step (b) further comprises advancing the at least one ribbon of reinforcing material along a path, applying adhesive to the advancing ribbon, and progressively bringing the ribbon into engagement with the advancing web of paperboard to adhere the ribbon to the web.

Appl. No. 09/559,704
Amendment dated December 16, 2003
Reply to Office Action of September 17, 2003

4. (Previously Amended) A method of making reinforced paperboard cartons as claimed in claim 1 and wherein step (b) comprises applying a plurality of ribbons of reinforcing material to the advancing web of paperboard, each of the ribbons of reinforcing material being positioned to overlie substantially all of a selected panel portion of the web.
5. (Previously Amended) A method of making reinforced paperboard cartons as claimed in claim 4 and wherein the web of paperboard has panel portions extending along opposed edge portions and wherein at least one of the plurality of ribbons of reinforcing material is positioned to overlie substantially all of a panel portion extending along an opposed edge portion of the web of paperboard.
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6. (Previously Amended) A method of making reinforced paperboard cartons as claimed in claim 4 and wherein step (b) further comprises applying and adhering a first ribbon of reinforcing material to said web of paperboard overlying substantially all of a panel portion thereof and applying and adhering a second ribbon of reinforcing material atop the first ribbon of reinforcing material to form a double thickness of reinforcing material overlying the panel portion of the web.
7. (Previously Amended) A method of making reinforced paperboard cartons as claimed in claim 4 and wherein the web of paperboard has opposed edges and a panel portion intermediate

Appl. No. 09/559,704
Amendment dated December 16, 2003
Reply to Office Action of September 17, 2003

the opposed edges, and wherein at least one of the ribbons of reinforcing material is positioned to overlie substantially all of the panel portion intermediate the opposed edges of the web.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Amended) A method of making reinforced paperboard cartons as claimed in claim 1 and further comprising the step of printing indicia on the at least one ribbon of reinforcing material, the indicia being visible from the inside of cartons formed in step (d).

10. (Previously Amended) A method of making reinforced paperboard cartons as claimed in claim 9 and wherein the indicia is printed on the at least one ribbon of reinforcing material before the ribbon is applied and adhered to the web of paperboard in step (b).

11. (Previously Amended) A method of making reinforced paperboard cartons as claimed in claim 1 and further comprising the step of scoring fold lines between panel portions of the web of paperboard along which the carton blanks are folded in step (d) to form cartons.

12. (Original) A method of making reinforced paperboard cartons as claimed in claim 11 and where in step (b) the at least one ribbon of reinforcing material is positioned on the web so as not to cover a fold line.

Appl. No. 09/559,704
Amendment dated December 16, 2003
Reply to Office Action of September 17, 2003

13. (Original) A method of making reinforced paperboard cartons as claimed in claim 12 and wherein the at least one ribbon of reinforcing material has an edge and wherein the step of scoring fold lines includes forming at least one fold line adjacent the edge of the ribbon.
14. (Original) A method of making reinforced paperboard cartons as claimed in claim 1 and where in step (b) the at least one ribbon of reinforcing material comprises paperboard trim.
15. (Original) A method of making reinforced paperboard cartons as claimed in claim 1 and were in step (b) the at least one ribbon of reinforcing material comprises paperboard cull.
16. (Original) A reinforced paperboard carton made by the method of claim 1.
17. (Canceled)
18. (Canceled)
19. (Canceled)
20. (Canceled)
21. (Canceled)
22. (Canceled)
23. (Canceled)
24. (Canceled)
25. (Currently Amended) A method of making paperboard carton blanks comprising the steps of:

Appl. No. 09/559,704
Amendment dated December 16, 2003
Reply to Office Action of September 17, 2003

(a) advancing a web of paperboard along a path, the web of paperboard having a width and longitudinally extending panel portions that will become panels separated by fold lines in completed carton blanks;

(b) laminating a ribbon of reinforcing material to the advancing web of paperboard, the ribbon having a width less than the width of the web of paperboard and being positioned on, and adhered to, substantially all of a longitudinally extending panel portion of the web of paperboard; and

(c) cutting the web of paperboard and laminated ribbon across their length into carton blanks having panels, the laminated ribbon reinforcing at least one panel of each of the carton blanks.

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26. (Previously Amended) A method of making paperboard carton blanks as claimed in claim 25 and where in step (b) the ribbon of reinforcing material is a ribbon of paperboard.

27. (Previously Amended) A method of making paperboard carton blanks as claimed in claim 26 and wherein the ribbon of paperboard is paperboard trim.

28. (Previously Amended) A method of making paperboard carton blanks as claimed in claim 26 and wherein the ribbon of paperboard is paperboard cull.

29. (Previously Amended) A method of making paperboard carton blanks as claimed in claim 25 and wherein step (b) comprises advancing the ribbon of reinforcing material along a path,

Appl. No. 09/559,704
Amendment dated December 16, 2003
Reply to Office Action of September 17, 2003

applying adhesive to the ribbon of reinforcing material, and bringing the ribbon into contact with the web to adhere the ribbon to the web.

30. (Previously Amended) A method of making paperboard carton blanks as claimed in claim 25 and wherein step (b) comprises laminating more than one ribbon of reinforcing material to the advancing web of paperboard, each ribbon having a width less than the width of the web of paperboard and being positioned within corresponding longitudinally extending panel portions of the web of paperboard to provide reinforcement in selected panels of the blank.

D | 31. (Previously Amended) A method of making paperboard carton blanks as claimed in claim 30 and wherein panel portions extend along opposed edges of the paperboard web and wherein at least one of the ribbons of reinforcing material is positioned within a panel portion along an edge of the web of paperboard.

32. (Previously Amended) A method of making paperboard carton blanks as claimed in claim 30 and wherein the web of paperboard has opposed edges wherein a panel portion extends along the web intermediate the opposed edges, at least one of the ribbons of reinforcing material being applied within the panel portion intermediate the edges of the web of paperboard.

33. (Previously Amended) A method of making paperboard carton blanks as claimed in claim 30 and wherein at least one of the ribbons of reinforcing material is applied atop another one of

Appl. No. 09/559,704
Amendment dated December 16, 2003
Rcply to Office Action of September 17, 2003

the ribbons of reinforcing material within the panel portion to form multiple layers of reinforcing material within the panel portion of said web of paperboard.

34. (Previously Amended) A paperboard carton blank made by the process of claim 25.

D| 35. (Previously Removed)

36. (Canceled)

37. (Canceled)

38. (Canceled)

39. (Canceled)